

# GETTING YOUR INFORMATION TO VOTERS 2008

The Office of the Secretary of State provides two convenient ways for candidates to communicate to voters free of charge.

This year, voters will receive Voters' Pamphlets prior to both the August 19 Primary and November 4 General Election. This information will also be posted on the Secretary of State's website.

## GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING CANDIDATE INFORMATION

- Submit within seven days of filing for office.
- Submit statement, biography, photo, and candidate information together.
- Submit statement and biography according to word limits and standards (see next column).
- Submit photo conforming to specifications (see last column).
- Submit online using email address only if you provided it at the time of filing, or via US mail.
- Major party candidates moving on to the General Election are welcome to submit a new statement within seven days after the Primary.

## SUBMITTING CANDIDATE INFORMATION

**Online:** [www.vote.wa.gov/candidatestatement](http://www.vote.wa.gov/candidatestatement)

**Mail to:** Voters' Pamphlet  
Office of the Secretary of State  
c/o Candy McDonald  
13018 - 314th Ave NE  
Duvall, WA 98019

## STATEMENTS AND BIOGRAPHIES

### Word limits

State law sets a maximum word limit for candidate statements based on the office sought (RCW 29A.32.121):

#### 100 Words

- State Representative

#### 200 Words

- Lt. Governor
- Secretary of State
- State Treasurer
- State Auditor
- Attorney General
- Public Lands Commissioner

- Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Insurance Commissioner
- State Senator

#### 300 Words

- President and Vice President
- US Senator
- US Representative
- Governor

A biography, including the following background and professional experience, can also be included and must not exceed 100 words.

- |                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| • Current Occupation/Employer   | • Education |
| • Significant career experience | • Family    |
| • Elected experience            |             |

Hyphenated words count as two words unless hyphenated in *Webster's II New Riverside University Dictionary*.

All statements are closely reviewed. Those exceeding the word limit are shortened by deleting full sentences from the end until the limit is reached.

### Statement and biography standards

The Office of the Secretary of State has established content, style and format standards to ensure candidate statements comply with legal requirements, enhance readability and ensure accuracy. Statements and biographies:

- Must accompany completed candidate information and photo;

- If submitted by mail, must be typewritten and double-spaced in standard paragraph style and submitted on a CD in Word and accompanied by a hard copy;
- Must use 12 point regular Times Roman font. Use italics only to emphasize specific words or statements. Bolding is not allowed;
- Must not include tables, lists or other material requiring multiple indents or formatting;
- Will be rejected if containing obscene, profane, libelous or defamatory language; and
- May have incidental spelling, grammar and punctuation errors corrected without altering meaning or substance.

## PHOTOGRAPHS

Each candidate may submit one original self-portrait. If mailed, the photograph can be submitted digitally on a CD, or as a print copy. Photos:

- Must be limited to the head and shoulders;
- Must be against a light-colored background (not white);
- Must be no more than five years old; and
- Must not show the uniform or insignia of any organization that advocates or teaches racial or religious intolerance or suggests the wearer has held public office.

### Digital photo

- Must be a digital image with a resolution of at least 300 dpi.

### Print photo

- Must be a color glossy print;
- Must be no smaller than 4 x 5 inches and no larger than 8 x 10 inches.

# 2008 PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION

## CANDIDATE INFORMATION

If submitting by US mail, please complete this page (typewritten or neatly printed) and return it with your statement, short biography, and photograph to the postal address listed inside. Please read the detailed specifications inside before submitting. The following information will be included in the Washington State Primary and General Election Voters' Pamphlets and the online Voters' Guide. The following form does not count towards your statement word limit.

Candidate name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it will appear on the ballot)

Political party affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include area code)

### Campaign address

Campaign address information is required, but will be published only if requested.

Campaign committee name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address or PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City or town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include area code)

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Publish campaign address information: Yes ( ) No ( )

**If you need this information in an alternative format, please contact the  
Office of the Secretary of State at (360) 902-4180 or TDD/TTY: (800) 422-8683.**

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*Washington*  
Secretary of State  
SAM REED